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14.04 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at four minutes
past Fourteen of the Clock.*

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377.

Title: Need to expedite widening of National Highway No. 5 – on Orissa stretch.

SHRI ANADI SAHU (BERHAMPUR, ORISSA): Sir, as a part of the Golden Quadrilateral, the Orissa stretch of National Highway No. 5 is being broadened from Jaleswar to Ichapuram. The Government of India have sanctioned funds for taking up the broadening work in different stretches of 50 kilometres length. The stretch between Jagatpur and Bhubaneswar in Orissa has been made a four-lane road with required specifications for playing of 20-wheeler trucks with longer axle load. However, this facility is not available at other stretches of National Highway No. 5. This causes depression on the road surface at other places and traffic congestion at some places.

Neither the Central Government nor the State Government have taken adequate and effective steps to expedite the construction of National Highway No.5. The main reasons for this delay are non-acquisition of private land and lack of supervisory control over the contractors.

I request the Government of India to take necessary steps in the matter.